

## Waukesha Police Department Media Release

## Man with a Gun

On Friday April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at approximately 12:56 pm, a male with what was described to officers as a rifle was observed in the backyard in the 200 blk of Greenmeadow Dr. Students were able to give a great description of the male and immediately notified the School Resource Officer. The Waukesha North H.S. Administrative team place the school on a SECURE status. A SECURE status is when the learning environment status quo with the exception of a heightened awareness by staff, ensure no students or staff are outside and locking of the outside doors.

A significant police response deployed to the area to safeguard the schools. After the area schools were secured, officers methodically searched the area for the suspect. A short time later officer located a 17-year-old male in a backyard armed with a rifle. Officers were able to engage in dialogue with the suspect to get him to peacefully surrender. The suspect was taken into custody without any further incident. A firearm was recovered from the scene.

Members of the police department were relaying real-time information, utilizing ReadyOP, to the leadership teams of the surrounding schools so they could make the best safety decisions. This is important as district officials do not want to disrupt the learning environment any more than necessary. The real-time information provided, allowed district officials to reduce any potential stress or anxiety for the student learners.

This is a true testament to the Wisconsin Department of Justice's - "SPEAK UP SPEAK OUT" campaign. The students observed something and said something about it. These courageous students are the ones who helped safeguard the community today, to those amazing students, Thank you!

We want to thank the Waukesha North Administrative team and the School District of Waukesha for their vigilance of training in school safety protocols.

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